

Please add the following new claims 55 and 56:

-- 55. The method of Claim 54, wherein said caller identification information is transmitted as voice signal data from said telephone answering apparatus to said paging network.

56. The method of Claim 54, wherein said caller identification information is transmitted from said telephone answering apparatus to said paging network as digital data, and further comprising the step of:

within the paging network, converting said caller identification information from digital data to voice signal data before transmitting said voice signal data to said called party portable communication device. --

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated November 9, 2000, applicant has amended claim 54, and added new claims 55 and 56. Claims 1 – 53 were previously cancelled. Claims 54 – 56 are currently pending in the application. A clean copy of the pending claims is included herewith as a separate attachment.

Claim 54 was rejected under §112 as indefinite. The above amendments to claim 54 correct such defect in form.

Claims 54 was rejected under §103 over the Baehr reference. Such rejection is respectfully traversed insofar as it relates to all of the pending claims.

In addition to numerous differences between the Baehr system and that shown and described in the present application, in particular the present claims provide for voice identification data to be transmitted to the portable device. As set out in more detail in the

dependent claims, the caller id data can be converted to voice data by either the telephone answering apparatus or the paging network itself. In either case, voice data identifying the calling party is transmitted to the portable apparatus. This allows for audible determination of the calling party by the called party.

Baehr does not suggest the transmission of voice data to a portable device in any manner, much less the various manners set forth in the claims. There is no suggestion to obtain caller id information automatically from the telephone company, and convert that data to voice data for transmission to the portable device. There is no suggestion to perform such a conversion in the answering apparatus, or in the paging system. Thus, the claims define patentable subject matter over the reference, and are believed allowable.

In view of the above amendments and comments, applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests a favorable reconsideration and allowance of all remaining claims.

Please charge any additional fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1060.

Respectfully submitted,



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Current Claims as of 5-9-2001



Claims 1 – 53 previously cancelled

54. (amended) A method of communicating information from a calling party to a called party utilizing a paging network, a telephone answering apparatus, and a telephone network, said information including at least caller identification information comprised of voice signal data representative of the identity of said calling party, comprising the steps of:

providing a portable communication device identified in said paging network to said called party;

initiating communication between said calling party and said paging network through said telephone network and said telephone answering apparatus;

within said telephone answering apparatus, automatically detecting from said telephone network caller-id information representing a telephone number of said calling party;

passing information identifying said calling party from said telephone answering apparatus to said paging network; and

transmitting to said called party portable communication device at least said caller identification information voice signal data from said telephone answering apparatus to said paging network.

~~-- 55 -- The method of Claim 54, wherein said caller identification information is transmitted as voice signal data from said telephone answering apparatus to said paging network.~~

56. The method of Claim 54, wherein said caller identification information is transmitted from said telephone answering apparatus to said paging network as digital data, and further comprising the step of:

within the paging network, converting said caller identification information from digital data to voice signal data before transmitting said voice signal data to said called party portable communication device. --

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